

## **Hurricane Sandy Sampling Results**

As part of its work to respond to Hurricane Sandy, the EPA has been assessing its Superfund sites, including the Raritan Bay Slag site in New Jersey.

The Raritan Bay Slag Superfund site is located on a beach in the Laurence Harbor section of Old Bridge, in the adjacent Margaret's Creek marsh area, and in a nearby area of Sayreville, New Jersey. The site is contaminated with lead slag, a byproduct of metal smelting. This lead slag was used to construct a seawall and a jetty along the southern shore of the Raritan Bay in Old Bridge and Sayreville.

Storm surge from Hurricane Sandy shifted sand and materials contaminated with lead at the Raritan Bay Slag site. The material is not directly impacting homes or businesses. The beach is closed for the season and people are not being exposed to the material. The storm also damaged portions of the protective fencing that EPA had installed around the contaminated areas. EPA is working to delineate where the material moved in order to adjust the fencing around the site and to make any necessary adjustments to the cleanup plan.

As part of this effort to delineate the spread of contamination, EPA took four samples at the site on November 3, 2012. Two of the four samples were from the public playground area and two were from the restricted beach area previously enclosed by the fence. Results showed that lead in three of the four samples meets the standard set to protect people while recreating. Lead in one sample taken in the restricted area of the beach was above the recreational limit. EPA will take additional samples to get a more detailed picture of how the material might have shifted and will take appropriate steps to prevent public exposure to contaminated materials at the site.

### **Map and sampling results:**

<http://www.epa.gov/region2/superfund/npl/raritanbayslag/sandymapandsampling.pdf>